



State Health Services Council Meeting

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Robert E. Moreton Building, M-739

1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas

April 23, 2009

9:00 a.m.

Minutes

Members Present:

Ms. Glenda Kane, Chair – Corpus Christi

Mr. Rudy Arredondo – Lubbock

Ms. Beverly Barron – Odessa

Ms. Graciela Cigarroa – San Antonio

Dr. Lewis Foxhall – Houston

Dr. David Woolweaver – Harlingen

Dr. Jeffrey Ross, – Houston – until 12:20

Not Present:

Dr. Jacinto Juarez – Laredo

Dr. Kirk Calhoun – Tyler

Visitors:

Colonel Connie McNabb

Joe Lovelace

Catherine Gorham

Dave Havron

Sue J. Davis

Cynthia Humphrey

Lisa Poyner

Greg Hoke

Mark Guidry

Eric Epley

Call to Order – Chair, Glenda Kane called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of January 29, 2009 Minutes – Glenda Kane asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 29, 2009 meeting. Motion by Beverly Barron to approve the minutes, seconded by Graciela Cigarroa. Motion carried. See www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/minutes/012909.pdf for meeting minutes.

Agenda Item 2: Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Lakey provided an update on the following topics:

Senate and House Appropriations bills have been adopted – now they will go to conference committee. Hearings for bills are starting later than usual, currently only two bills have passed both House and Senate, neither impacts DSHS.

DSHS received the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Award on immunizations – Texas has been named the most improved state in childhood immunization coverage rates from 2004 to 2008.

Dr. Lakey participated in an Institute of Medicine Obesity forum on February 5, 2009 which focused on childhood obesity.

Public Health Accreditation – DSHS has the opportunity to review and comment on the national Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) draft standards for voluntary accreditation of health departments. The review and comment period through April is the PHAB's next step in shaping how health departments' functions and capacities will be assessed. This is a key opportunity for DSHS to understand the accreditation process and how it is relevant to Texas. DSHS staff who are involved in related processes over the last year include Rick Danko, Mary Soto, Paul McGaha, and James Morgan.

DSHS is working with other state agency partners to improve overall food safety in Texas. DSHS is applying for a Robert Wood Johnson Health Law grant to support efforts to study food safety legal issues.

Spring Semester of Grand Rounds has started. This program is modeled after training in medical centers, focused on public health, and open to any interested DSHS employee. Attendees may earn 1.5 continuing education credits for various disciplines.

Dr. Lakey introduced the following staff members:

Troy Alexander, Director for the Centers for Program Coordination, Policy and Innovation
Dr. James Morgan, Assistant Commissioner for Regional and Local Health Services
Duiona Baker, Senior Staff Liaison with the CDC.

Other Announcements:

Jack Sims, Manager of Immunization Branch, was recently elected president of Association of Immunization Managers (AIM). The Association enables immunization managers to work together to effectively prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases and improve immunization coverage in the United States and its territories.

The Texas chapter of the National Association of Social Workers has named the top 20 social workers – three were from DSHS. Becky Brock, Region 1; Beth Kirk, North Texas State Hospital; and Margaret Bruch, Health Screening and Case Management Unit.

Elaine Powell is retiring on April 30 after 27 years of service.

Dr. Rudy Arredondo is leaving the SHS Council; he has served from 2004-2009.

Agenda Item 3: 81st Legislative Session Update – Kirk Cole provided an update on the legislative session. DSHS is preparing for Sunset review coming up. A stakeholder meeting will be held on June 26, 2009 the day after the next SHS Council meeting. Council members were asked to put this date on their calendars. The stakeholder meeting will be broadcast in various locations around the state.

At this point in the session there are many bills in process and only two bills have made it through the committee process. There are still many bills that need to be logged in. Mr. Cole outlined several bills, but it is still uncertain which bills will move forward. Ms. Kane asked if the stem cell rider is still under consideration. Mr. Cole indicated it is still under consideration, but this particular bill does not have a big impact for the department. Senate Bill 7, the obesity bill has passed through the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and is now eligible to be heard on the Senate floor. SB 7 will build some obesity control efforts into the Medicaid and CHIP programs.

The Cancer Registry bill has passed the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and is now eligible to be heard on the floor. Staff was asked to check the status of this bill and report back to Ms. Kane.

There was discussion concerning the budget appropriations. Dr. Lakey provided clarification on Mental Health and Substance Abuse funding, Exceptional Item requests and Regulatory funding. During the upcoming weeks while the bills are being heard in committee, staff and resource witnesses will be asked to be available to educate legislators on issues as they consider funding requests.

Agenda Item 4: New Food Package for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program – Evelyn Delgado introduced the WIC program and described the electronic benefits transfer system (EBT) which was developed in 2007. Texas is now 100% compliant with WIC EBT. Program call center volume has increased from 11,000 calls last month to 24,000 this month. Most inquiries are about access. Ms. Delgado introduced Merritt Schroeder to discuss the New Food Packaging program with WIC.

Ms. Schroeder introduced staff in the WIC program -- Paula Cancer, clinical nutrition specialist, and Shirley Ellis, clinical service coordinator -- and detailed the new food packaging program. The full presentation can be found at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agenda.shtm>

Agenda Item 5: Recommend to the Health and Human Services Commission proposal of the following rule actions for public comment* (Public comments will be taken with each rule discussion.)

- a. Amendment to rules concerning the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC. Evelyn Delgado introduced the rule and Mike Montgomery provided the rule overview; Motion by Ms. Barron to recommend HHSC approval to publish for public comment. Motion seconded by Dr. Woolweaver. Motion carried. No public comment was provided.
- b. Repeal of rules concerning Adverse Actions for the Mental Health Services Medicaid Programs. Mike Maples introduced the rule and Ross Robinson provided the rule overview. Motion by Dr. Arredondo to recommend HHSC approval to publish for public comment. Motion seconded by Dr. Ross. Motion carried. No public comment was provided.
- c. Amendment to a rule concerning the control of communicable diseases requiring exclusion from schools. Adolfo Valadez introduced the rule and Marilyn Felkner provided the rule overview. Motion by Dr. Ross to recommend HHSC approval to publish for public comment. Motion seconded by Dr. Woolweaver. Motion carried. No public comment was provided.

Agenda Item 6: Perspectives on Disaster Preparedness in Texas – Adolfo Valadez, M.D., M.P.H. discussed how DSHS, together with our partners, can increase our effectiveness and response in disaster preparedness.

- a. Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOC, San Antonio) – Eric Epiley
- b. Texas Military Forces – Colonel Connie McNabb

- c. Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC, Houston) – Doug Havern
- d. Galveston County Health District – Dr. Mark Guidry CEO and Chief Medical Officer

Eric Epley described the role of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) and the RMOC. He detailed the area that the RMOC covers, its duties, structure and the challenges that the RMOC in San Antonio faces in responding to disasters. He discussed the response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Ike, and the all-hazards approach implemented since Hurricane Katrina. He also discussed the NIMS compliant infrastructure and the additional command structure that is now in place.

Colonel Connie McNabb described the role of the Texas Military Forces in disasters. Colonel McNabb also provided the Command Briefing that is given in preparation for and during disaster response. This presentation can be found at: www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agendas/042309/Apr_23_Agenda.pdf.

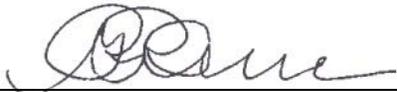
Doug Havern discussed the Catastrophic Medical Operations Center roles and responsibilities. The full presentation can be found at: www.dshs.state.tx.us/council/agendas/042309/Apr_23_Agenda.pdf.

Dr. Mark Guidry, CEO and Chief Medical Officer for Galveston County discussed Galveston County’s experience with Hurricane Ike and the key roles of the Local Health Authority including lessons learned.

Agenda Item 7: There were no general public comments.

Glenda Kane adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m. Motion by Dr.Arredondo and second by Ms. Barron.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2009.



Glenda Kane, Chair

June 25, 2009

Date Approved by Council